

Youth Resource Connections

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Headlines

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) releases funds to support programs for youth. The EPA will fund training programs to expose students to various career possibilities in environmental careers. Fiscal year 2003 funds will be used to support programs in Alaska, Colorado, D.C., Kansas, Massachusetts, Maine, Rhode Island, Texas, Virginia, and Wisconsin. For more information visit the EPA website at: <http://www.epa.gov>.

The Office of Vocational Education (OVAE) at the US Department of Education announces a College and Career Transition Initiative. OVAE and the League of Innovation in the Community College have announced the first 15 partnerships for the College and Career Transitions Initiative. This program is designed to ease student transitions between high schools and postsecondary education and to improve academic performance at both levels. Each partnership is comprised of a community college, high school and two employers. For more information contact the OVAE website at: <http://www.ed.gov>.

Youth Learn Initiative to produce a report on youth media. Youth Learn and the Center for Children and Technology plan to publish a report that explores how youth media and technology programs are evaluating their efforts. The authors will explore the processes and tools that enable organizations to collect, analyze, and interpret information to gauge impact and improve programs. The report will include a collection of research findings and sample evaluation tools. Program operators that have examples of useful tools and resources are asked to contact Monica Biswas at mbiswas@edc.org. Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Educational Development Center at 617-618-2764.

Welfare Information Network provides resources on serving out-of-school youth programs. The Welfare Information network has developed a list of programs and service publications that address serving out-of-school youth. While there is no single system that provides services to out-of-school youth, many systems can play a role in better addressing their needs, including education, workforce, human services, juvenile justice, and community-and faith based sectors. For general information on youth development visit: <http://www.financeprojectinfo.org/WIN/youthmain.asp>.

The Legal Action Center establishes National H.I.R.E. Network. The Legal Action Center has established a network entitled "Helping individuals with criminal records Re-enter through Employment (HIRE)". The goal of the network is to increase the number and quality of job opportunities available to people with criminal records by changing public policies, employment practices and public opinion. The National H.I.R.E. Network also provides training and technical assistance to agencies working to improve the employment prospects for people with criminal records. For more information contact Michelle Harrison at: mharrison@lac.org.

Program Spotlight

Neighborhood Youth Center Program. The State of Connecticut funds projects for at-risk youth. The Neighborhood Youth Center projects are designed to increase the range and extent of positive experience for at-risk youth and specifically focus on supporting neighborhood youth centers within targeted communities. Centers provide recreational activities, leadership opportunities, skills training, and consistent contact with supportive adults and peers. Currently, programs are operating in seven municipalities in the State. For additional information contact Valerir LaMotte at 860-418-6316.

Florida workforce training program partners with local Chamber of Commerce. The Agency for Workforce Innovation provided funds for the skills training partnership in Duval County, Florida. The Chamber of Commerce in Duval County supports the training partnership. Students receive a range of job preparation training, resume preparation, interviewing skills and workplace orientation. Upon successful completion of the preliminary training the students are placed in temporary paid positions in health care, construction, and automotive services with 53 local employers. For more information contact Paula Chaon at 366-6651.

Funding Opportunities

The Corporation of National Service seeks application for national training program. The Corporation will award \$4.1 million to implement a national training system to develop a network of volunteer parents engaged in substance abuse prevention efforts. Through 20 sites nationwide, the grantee will establish a train-the trainer model and impart the model to participating organizations. Non-profit organizations are asked to apply. For more information contact Nancy Talbot at 202-606-5000, ext. 470 or email ntalbot@cns.gov. **Deadline: July 14.**

Braitmayer Foundation provides funds for instructors. The Braithmayer Foundation will fund programs to improve the education, including curriculum and school reform initiatives and professional development for teachers. Up to \$35,000 will be awarded to non-profit organizations. For more information contact Robert Kilpatrick at: 860-638-5026. **Deadline: June 30.**

First Data Western Union funds project for community-based organizations. First Western Union Foundation will award grants ranging from \$1,000 to \$25,000 to community-based organizations to improve education, health, and basic human services in communities. For more information contact Liuella Chavez D'Angelo at: 303-967-6606. **Deadline: September 1.**

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services funds state grants. The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services funds state efforts to reform and improve special education programs for children with disabilities. Awards averaging \$1 million will be used to improve educational, early intervention and transitional systems. For more information contact the Department of Education website at: <http://www.ed.gov>. **Deadline: July 11.**

Publications/Reports/Resources

Youth Development: On the Path Towards Professionalization. This publication highlights the achievements in the field in developing core competencies, and skills standards, training and education. To obtain a copy of this publication, visit: http://www.nassembly.org/nassembly/html/prod_you.html.

The Forum for Youth Investment publishes an article by Karen Pittman highlighting research on what makes a difference for youth. This article features the answers to key questions that identify steps that distinguish between youth who are doing well and those at-risk. For more information visit: <http://forumforyouthinvestment.org/comment/diffeprove.htm>.

Moving In: Ten Successful Independent/Transitional Living Programs profiles programs across the countries that are helping foster care and homeless teens adapt to living on their own. It also offers successful models for transitioning foster care youth. To obtain a copy of this publication, visit: <http://www.northwestmedia.com>.

Long-Term Trends in the Well-Being of Children and Youth published by the Child Welfare League of America press is a collection of essays which identify contemporary youth policy and behavior patterns. For more information on this publication, visit: <http://www.cwla.org>.

Youth in Adult Basic and Literacy Education Program. This program featured in the New Digest in ERIC offers an overview of how programs are responding to the challenge of serving young adults. The article can be found in the ERIC Digest no. 246.

Resources available at NYEC. The National Youth Employment Coalition (NYEC) under the WIA Leaders Academy has developed a resource tool based on topical study group reports developed by participants in the 2003 WIA Leaders Academy. The report includes highlights in the following areas, recruiting and retaining out-of-school youth, youth council's responsibilities, development of a peer support tools for RFPs, WIA reauthorization/policy, and youth development. Visit: <http://www.nyec.org>.

Websites

Federal Resources for Educational Excellence (FREE). This website contains hundreds of federally supported teaching and learning resources. For more information, visit: <http://www.ed.gov/free/>.

Tribal Youth Program. This website provides information about the tribal youth program and offers materials on grants and funding. For more information visit: <http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/typ/>

Calendar of Events

July 9-12. Claremont, CA. Youth to Youth International. Western States Regional Youth Leadership Conference. Contact: (614) 224-4506 or visit: <http://www.y2yint.com/>.

July 14-16. New Haven, CT. Yale University School of the 21st Century. Partners for Success: Linking Communities, Families, and Schools. Contact: (203) 432-9944 or visit <http://www.yale.edu/21c>.

July 15-18. New Orleans, LA. Crisis Prevention Institute. Nonviolent Crisis Intervention Training Seminar. Contact: (800) 558-8976 or visit: <http://www.crisisprevention.com/>.

July 16-18. Omaha, NE. Girls Inc. Kid-Ability! Training. Contact: (402) 457-4676, calles@girlsincomaha.org.

July 16-18 Raleigh, NC. Gesell Institute. Older Child Workshops. Contact: (203) 777-3481 or visit: <http://www.gesellinstitute.org/>.

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Technical Assistance Update for June 27, 2003

July 16-August 1. Portland, OR. Intercultural Communication Institute. Summer Institute for Intercultural Communication (three sessions: July 16-18, July 21-25 and July 28-Aug. 1). Contact: (503) 297-4622, or visit: <http://www.intercultural.org/>.

July 23-26 Orlando, FL. American Professional Society on the Abuse of Children. 11th Annual Colloquium. Contact: (405) 271-8202, <http://www.apsac.org/>.

July 24-25 Minneapolis, MN. Search Institute. Building Development Assets in School Communities: Training of Trainers. Contact: (800) 294-4322, or visit: <http://www.search-institute.org/>.

July 28-30 Washington, DC. National Institute of Justice. Annual Conference on Criminal Research and Evaluation. Contact: (202) 393-2000, or visit: <http://www.nijpcs.org/RE/RE2003/index.htm>.

July 30-August 1 Philadelphia, PA. Child Welfare League of America. Fourth National Kinship Care Conference. Contact: (202) 662-4286 and <http://www.cwla.org/conferences>.

August 4-7 Minneapolis, MN. University of Minnesota Center for Adolescent Nursing. Linking Youth Development and Sexuality Education. Contact: (612) 626-4772, or visit: <http://www.nursing.umn.edu/>.

August 6-8 Jacksonville, FL. Gesell Institute. Older Child Workshops. Contact: (203) 777-3481 or visit: <http://www.gesellinstitute.org/>.

Youth Resource Connections is a technical assistance update published bi-weekly by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL), Office of Youth Services (OYS).

Youth Resource Connections provides important announcements and information for state and local workforce investment boards, youth councils, youth service providers, Youth Opportunity Grant sites, partners, and others interested in youth development.

We welcome your input: Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you would like to contribute information, post an inquiry, or suggest topics to cover, please call 202-639-3037.

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